

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) An electrostatic coating spray gun for electrifying a coating material atomized by compressed air using high voltage and coating the same onto a substance to be coated, the spray gun comprising:

a barrel constituting a main body of the spray gun;

an air cap mounted on a front of the barrel;

a coating material delivery port which is defined in a central part of the air cap and is open outwardly;

a centralized electrode protruding forward through the coating material delivery port;

a first pair of projections formed at respective radial opposing positions of the air cap while sandwiching the centralized electrode therebetween, and said projections protruding farther forward than the coating material delivery port;

a pattern air flow channel formed in the projections so that compressed air is spouted inwardly forward with respect to the projections; and

a pair of insulatively shielded electrodes accommodated in interiors of the respective projections and having respective surfaces covered with an electrically insulating material,

wherein the centralized electrode is grounded and a high DC voltage is applied between the centralized electrode and the insulatively shielded electrodes, and the insulatively shielded electrodes have respective distal ends covered by the projections.

4. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 3, further comprising a second pair of projections projecting forward from the coating material delivery port and said first pair being at respective upper and lower positions of said air cap and said second pair being provided at respective left and right positions in a diametrical direction of the air cap with the centralized electrode placed therebetween; another pair of insulatively shielded electrodes covered with an electrically insulating material, said another pair of insulatively shielded electrodes being accommodated, respectively, in said second pair of

projections and high dc voltage is applied between the centralized electrode and the insulatively shielded electrodes.

5. (Withdrawn) An electrostatic coating spray gun for electrifying a coating material atomized by compressed air using high voltage and coating the same onto a substance to be coated, the spray gun comprising:

- a barrel constituting a main body of the spray gun;
- an air cap mounted on the front of the barrel;
- a coating material delivery port which is defined in a central part of the air cap and is open outwardly;
- a centralized electrode protruding forward through the coating material delivery port;
- at least one projection projecting forward from the coating material delivery port and positioned within a circumferential region extending about said centralized electrode, and said at least one projection forming part of the air cap so that the projection is radially spaced from said centralized electrode; and said at least one projection receiving an insulatively shielded electrode which shielded electrode has a surface covered with an electrically insulating material, the insulatively shielded electrode being accommodated in the interior of the projection, wherein high dc voltage is applied between the centralized electrode and the insulatively shielded electrode.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Withdrawn) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 3, wherein the centralized electrode is provided by, a paint having conductivity and is used as the coating material, and high dc voltage is applied between the paint and the insulatively shielded electrodes.

8. (Currently Amended) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 14, wherein the centralized [[pin]] electrode [[31]] is grounded by a wiring cable.

9. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 3, wherein the barrel has an outer periphery and the air cap includes an outer cylinder, the spray gun further comprising a retaining nut threadingly engaged with the outer periphery of the barrel, the retaining nut having a shaping air spout port which is located near the tip end of the barrel so that compressed air is spouted forward along an outer surface of the outer cylinder of the air cap from the shaping air spout port.

10. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 3, wherein said projections are multi-walled bodies each having an elongated cavity which receives a respective one of said shielded electrodes.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 3, wherein said pattern air flow channel in each of said projections is spouted diagonally radially inward forward.

13. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 3, wherein each of said projections have a multi-sided wall extending around a respective side surface of said shielded electrodes and a cap end wall extending over a respective free end of said shielded electrodes, and wherein said multi-sided wall of said projections include port holes through which the compressed air is spouted.

14. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 3, wherein said centralized electrode is a pin electrode.

15. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 4, wherein said centralized electrode is a pin electrode.

16. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 5, wherein said at least one projection comprises a first pair of projections extending forward of said coating material delivery port and each receiving therein a respective insulatively shielded electrode.

17. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 16, further comprising a second pair of projections extending forward of said coating material delivery port, and being circumferentially spaced from said first pair of projections and each of said second pair of projections receiving a respective insulatively shielded electrode.

18. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 5, wherein said projection defines an air flow port directed radially inward.

19. (Currently Amended) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 5, wherein said centralized ~~central~~ electrode is a pin electrode extending through or along said coating material delivery port.

20. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic coating spray gun according to claim 5, wherein said at least one projection is a ring shaped or partial ring shaped projection that receives said shielded electrode which is ring shaped or partial ring shaped.

21. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic spray gun according to claim 15, wherein the pin electrode is grounded by a wiring cable.

22. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic spray gun according to claim 5, wherein the centralized electrode is grounded by a wiring cable.

23. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic spray gun according to claim 4, wherein the barrel has an outer periphery and the air cap includes an outer cylinder, the spray gun further comprising a retaining nut threadingly engaged with the outer periphery of the barrel, the

retaining nut having a shaping air spout port which is located near the tip end of the barrel so that compressed air is spouted forward along an outer surface of the outer cylinder of the air cap from the shaping air spout port.

24. (Previously Presented) The electrostatic spray gun according to claim 5, wherein the barrel has an outer periphery and the air cap includes an outer cylinder, the spray gun further comprising a retaining nut threadingly engaged with the outer periphery of the barrel, the retaining nut having a shaping air spout port which is located near the tip end of the barrel so that compressed air is spouted forward along an outer surface of the outer cylinder of the air cap from the shaping air spout port.